19. Reservation for women in LOK Sabha and Legislative Assemblies.

20. Statutory backing for provisions of the Model Code.

21. Statutory backing for Observers of the Election Commission.

22. Powers of Election Commission for ordering re-poll in cases of large scale coercion of voters and violation of the specific directions of the Commission for fair poll.

23. Proportional Representation-List System.

24. Use of Official Machinery.

Exhibitions Organised by Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India Ltd. in Different Countries

413. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the exhibitions organised by the Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation of India Ltd. in different countries during the last three years;

(b) what amount of money was spent in organising these exhibitions; and

(c) how much money was earned by organising these exhibitions during the above period, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Statement is attached. [*See* appendix CLV, Annexure No. 11]

Government Directive to cut down Expenditure

414. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the Central Ministries to cut down their expenditure by 10 per cent;

(b) if so, what is the total expenditure is proposed to be cut down by 10 per cent and what is the saving estimated thereby;

(c) what is the basis on which the savings figures has been arrived at;

(d) whether with the imposition of 10 per cent cut in expenditure, some on-going projects and the projects proposed to be taken up by the various Ministries are likely to be delayed; and

(e) if so, how do Government think that by delaying the on-going projects and those proposed to be taken up would check the inflationary trends?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (e) A review of proposals, for anticipated additional expenditure indicates that a cut of 10% in the budget of all Ministries may be necessary to contain the budgetary deficit. The Ministries have accordingly been asked to locate savings within their budget to match the supplementaries sought for by them. While identifying the areas of likely savings the Ministries are free to prioritise their schemes/projects and reduce expenditure on low priority and inessential items.

Recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission

415. SHRI S.B. CHAVAN:
SHRI JAGESH DESAI:
SHRI BHASKAR ANNAJI MASODKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he had requested the Chief Ministers and State Governments to accept the recommendations made by the Ninth Finance Commission;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some of the State Governments have complained for not getting a fair deal; if

and the nature of the complaints made; and

(c) what action Government propose to take on the basis of the complaints made by some State Governments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) In the meeting of the NDC on 19.6.1990, the Finance Minister stated that in keeping with conventions and traditions, the Ninth Finance Commission report has been accepted by the Government and it would not be possible to change the structure and broad recommendations made by the Commission.

(b) Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, M.P., Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu and special category States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura expressed their reservations over some of the recommendations in the Ninth Finance Commission's Second Report. These related to over-estimation of States revenue receipts, under-estimation of their revenue expenditure including Plan revenue component, inadequate quantum of devolution and debt relief and provision for State Calamity Relief Fund, loss of revenue on account of implementation of prohibition policy, not providing assistance for covering the non-Plan revenue gap, methodology of estimation of normative revenue and expenditure and determination of the minimum revenue Plan expenditure, non-provision for infrastructural schemes for Bombay and for upgradation and special problems adoption of 1981 population for allocation of shares of additional excise duty instead of 1971 population, etc.

(c) The financial difficulties of the States will be considered selectively on merits and assistance extended where necessary in a phased manner within the overall resources available.

Enhancement of Rent by Punjab National Banks on Renewal of Leases

416. SHRI T.A. MOHAMMED SAQHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab National Bank Headquarters office enters into a lease of 33 months and at the time of renewal of further lease gives enhancement of rent only after a period of three years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in all the other nationalised banks, including Punjab National Bank branches, the lease is entered into for a period of 33 months and the enhancement of rent is allowed immediately after completion of 33 months; and

(c) if the reply to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative what steps are being taken to remove the anomaly?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Punjab National Bank has reported that it is a normal practice in the bank to hire residential accommodation for its officials for an initial period of 11 months followed by 2 options of 11 months each. The rent is normally increased after a period of 3 years as provided under the provisions of Delhi Rent Control Act, 1988. Information regarding the position obtaining in other nationalised banks is not readily available.

Acquisition of premises on lease/rental basis and the period of lease are matters of day-to-day operations of the banks and decisions in this regard are taken by banks themselves on commercial considerations and within the broad guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India in the matter.